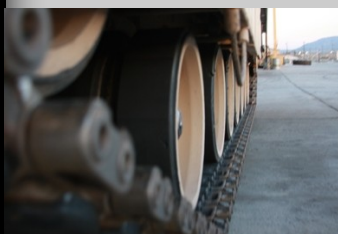


JANUARY 2011



Tank Tracks



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Commanders Words
Family Readiness Officer
Alpha Co
Bravo Company
Charlie Company
Delta Company
H&S Company
Chaplains Corner

Pg 2
Pg 2
Pg 3
Pg 3
Pg 4
Pg 4
Pg 5
Pg 8

BATTALION COMMANDERS WORDS



"As we look back on 2010, this was a big year for the battalion. We had three companies deploy to Afghanistan (two on route clearance missions and one for a security force mission), supported the MEUs with tank platoons, deployed to Eastern Europe for the Black Sea Rotational Force mission, conducted Exercise STEEL KNIGHT and prepared to deploy tanks to Afghanistan. We also sent a number of Marines to support individual augmentation billets. The war in Afghanistan has kept the battalion busy and will continue to do so. While the rest of America may not be directly affected by this war, the Marines, Sailors and families of this battalion certainly are. I commend everyone associated with this battalion for their hard work, sacrifice and commitment to Corps and Country.

As we look forward to 2011, it promises to be another year of continued support of the war in Afghanistan and in being prepared to support any emerging crisis elsewhere in the world. We are even now deploying Delta Company to Afghanistan--the first American tanks to be employed there. We will see the return of Bravo Company in late spring. And, we will deploy Charlie on a Route Clearance mission this fall. Additionally, the remainder of the battalion will train as an alert contingency task force, prepared to respond to any emerging crisis.

1st Tank Battalion performs a unique and critical role in support of Marine Corps missions. The tank support we provide is the Corps' "armored fist" in fighting our nation's battles. The Marines and Sailors of this battalion have performed exceptionally throughout our history and I have no doubt they will continue to do so.

Once again, I thank the families of this battalion for your support and the sacrifices you make on behalf of our country. The critical role you play in supporting your Marine or Sailor does not go un-noticed. We are one team and one family. And I commend those who have given of their time and resources to assist others as needs have emerged.

I ask that you keep in your prayers those currently deployed to the fight. The hymn, *Eternal Father Strong to Save*, has been a traditional hymn of the Corps. Many verses have been written for the hymn, but the following is perhaps the best:

'Eternal Father, grant, we pray
To all Marines, both night and day,
The courage, honor, strength, and skill
Their land to serve, thy law fulfill;
Be thou the shield forevermore
From every peril to the Corps.'
--J.E. Seim, 1966

May God bless America and Semper Fidelis,"

LtCol Tim Barrick, USMC
Commanding Officer
1st Tank Bn
"The Armored Fist"

ALPHA COMPANY

To the Families of Alpha Company:

A well deserved congratulations and welcome back to all of the Alpha Company Marines that just returned from a very successful deployment to Afghanistan. Their courage and dedication have added another chapter to the proud legacy of this company and its service to the nation. I hope that you were able to enjoy the holiday period to rest, reflect on their accomplishments, and reunite with your Marines and Sailors.

My family and I would like to extend our gratitude for the warm welcome we have received since re-joining Alpha Company on 6 Dec 2010. I'm proud to say that my first tour was with Alpha Company and it's great to be back.

Like usual, 1st Tank Battalion, and Alpha Company in particular, will be very busy in 2011. As Alpha Company begins to reform and prepare for a probable return to Afghanistan in January 2012, the company will begin with tank gunnery in January 2011. In February, we will move down to Camp Pendleton, CA for approximately three weeks of training in support of exercise PACIFIC HORIZON. Upon return from Camp Pendleton, Alpha Company will begin preparations for section and platoon level gunnery during the first two weeks of April. Then we will join the rest of the battalion in May for exercise URBAN THUNDER here in 29 Palms. After a chance to catch our breath in the summer, the company will begin pre-deployment training in earnest. I'm extremely proud to be a part of Alpha Company once again, and I look forward to meeting everyone in the "extended family" that comprises Alpha Company, 1st Tank Battalion.

Best Regards,
Capt Gary Slater

BRAVO COMPANY

To the Families of Bravo Company,

Operations continue at a demanding but fairly regular pace. The Marines are adapting well to their missions and the areas that they are responsible for. The platoons have become absolutely vital to the success of the forces we support. This success does not come without a cost, and Bravo has sustained some injuries; Sgt Mejia, Cpl LuceroBaron, Cpl Martinez and LCpl Gaertner have all been medically evacuated from theater. We will carry on with our assigned missions but our buddies are never far from our hearts and I ask that you keep them and their families in your thoughts as they all continue to heal and rehabilitate from their injuries.

We've received many care packages from families, groups and organizations; the support has been amazing and very welcome especially during the Holiday season that we must spend away from family!

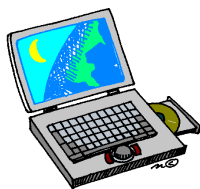
As you might imagine, there's not a lot of time to enjoy all these goodies from home as the platoons are only back at our main base about once a week. And when they do come back the Tank Leader (our resident Australian) keeps them hopping. They might just get a break on Christmas 'cause he's happy that the Australian cricket team apparently beat England – I don't know how that happens as the sport is a mystery to all of us, but if it keeps 'top' happy we're all for it.

I encourage you to keep up the communication with your loved ones through moto-mail, emails, letters, packages, or whatever social media links you choose.

These middle months of deployments drag on sometimes, but your thoughts and words will keep spirits up. We'll focus on getting the job done and keep an ear towards home for news from family and friends. Please feel free to contact me or the command if I can be of service to you.

Semper Fidelis and Sincerely,

Travis Carlson, Captain USMC
Commanding Officer, Bravo Company



1ST TANK BATTALION WEBSITES

WWW.I-MEF.USMC.MIL/DIV/1TANKS

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM—1ST TANK BATTALION

STAY CONNECTED—STAY INFORMED

1st Tank Battalion Website is your window to what is happening within the
Battalion, your Marine or Sailor and their families!!

"People sleep
peaceably in
their beds at
night because
rough men
stand ready to
do violence on
their behalf"
George Orwell

CHARLIE COMPANY

Friends and Family of Company C:

Many blessings and a Happy New Year to all. I sincerely hope that the holiday season treated all of you well, and many fond memories were forged. As we prepare to shift gears to a high operations tempo throughout the course of this quarter, I can only hope that the fond memories of time spent enjoying each other shall continue to keep the Charlie Company family strong. Now - onto training, and here is what you can expect:

We begin this quarter with Semi-Annual Tank Gunnery. The company will depart for Range 500 on 10 January, ready to place steel on target time again. I encourage all of you to take part in assisting in the naming process for your spouse or family member's tank – because I fully expect that we will need 14 witty new tank names as all crews return from qualification on 25 January as qualified. Upon completion, we will have a quick maintenance period (and possibly long hours) as we prepare to depart for Camp Pendleton on 7 February.

Exercise IRON FIST has the makings to be a truly remarkable training opportunity for the company, as we re-invigorate our amphibious roots among our ranks. Both 1st and 3rd platoons will participate, along with the next MEU platoon from Company A which will be attached to the company. Second Platoon will remain behind in order to conduct Enhanced Mojave Viper 3-11. In both instances, however, many hours will be spent devoted toward honing our armor capabilities. Part of the IRON FIST exercise will be a Battalion Landing Team –sized amphibious landing, in which each crew of Company C will get “feet wet.” I am currently working with our Family Readiness Officer to provide an opportunity for our families to observe this awe-inspiring display of combat power from the shore. Stay tuned for more on that. When the company returns on or about 5 March, we shall be poised and ready for whatever contingent America may call us to serve.

On a separate note, I would like to take this opportunity to personally congratulate our newly promoted Meritorious Corporals – Cpl Christopher Drayer, Cpl Andrey Sotnik, and Cpl Zacariah Turnbull. Special recognition is also due to the family members of these Marines as well, for we all know that they did not get to where they are now by themselves.

Marines and Family of Company C, I look forward to the months ahead. Mount Up!

Fair winds and following seas,

Captain Anthony P. Bariletti
Commanding Officer, Company C

DELTA COMPANY

To the Families of Delta Company:

My family and I would like extend our appreciation for the warm welcome we have received since assuming command on July 15th. The last couple of months have seen quite a few changes in the company's structure as we prepare to assume the Alert Contingency MAGTF(ACM) mission on the November 1, 2010.

The company had a very successful gunnery evolution in September with many of the crews qualifying for the first time with the new Heavy Brigade Combat Team qualification tables. The Company currently is preparing for Steel Knight, the Marine Corps Ball and Operation Iron FIST, so the upcoming months will be as busy as the last few have been.

However, the Marines and Sailors of Company D have already demonstrated they are willing and able to take on any challenge that is placed in front of them. I look forward to the coming months and to the opportunities that may come as the ACM Company for the Battalion.

With Regards,
Capt Daniel Hughes
Commanding Officer

H&S COMPANY

To the families of H&S Company,

In the last newsletter I addressed the challenging times the Marines and their families have endured. Once again we have all faced an exhausting schedule with deployments, deployment workups, and the training schedules required to keep the Marines prepared for future operations. All of this goes to show the incredible strength of our family bonds. The mission of 1st Tank Battalion could never be accomplished without it, so *Thank You* for all that you do to make this unit what it is today.

With Iron Fist on the horizon, we look forward to the diverse training offered. This exercise will exercise your Marines on everything from shipboard life to amphibious combat operations. At no time in our recent past have we been able to take part in an evolution like this and we are ready.

Hard training is always followed by well deserved family time and now is no exception. Family time is a priority for the entire Battalion and we can look forward to some long weekends and a few opportunities to take a little leave. Be on the lookout for upcoming events like Jane Wayne Day and I hope to see you there.

Once again, it is truly an honor and a privilege to be Commanding H&S Company.

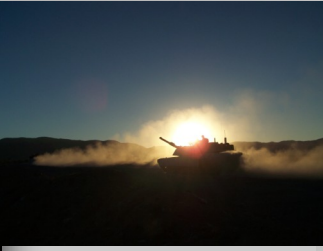
Sincerely, Capt Todd Crumbo

Tank Platoon, BLT 1/1, 13th MEU

To the Friends and Families of the 13th MEU Platoon,

The MEU platoon has been very busy for the last six months preparing for our deployment with the 13th MEU. Training with 1/1 began in July with a trip to the Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, California where the Marines excelled in this challenging environment. Then we were back in the desert for Mojave Viper and Gunnery with all crews firing distinguished. Early in October we moved the Marines and equipment down to Camp Pendleton to start our at-sea periods and additional training exercises. The training included: amphibious mechanized raids, helo dunker training and long hikes. The BLT 1/1 Marine Corps Ball was held in Temecula, CA at the Pechanga Casino and Resort. It was a great night of tradition and relaxation as some Marines were able to see their families after more than two months of separation. January and February will usher in continued training and final preparations for deployment.

On a personal note, I really appreciate the support of the families over the past 6 months of work ups. I ask for your continued support as we make final preparations for the deployment. Our schedule has been full and your support has been vital to our success. My family and I appreciate all the prayers and support and are delighted to welcome our daughter to the Marine Corps family.



Schedule of Events

JANUARY

JAN 7 SMP FREE CHESS TOURNAMENT 830-4767
 JAN 11 8:00—3:00 L.I.N.K.S. FOR SPOUSES 830-1696
 FAMILY READINESS VOLUNTEER TRNG 830-4163
 SMP COUNSEL MEETING 830-4767
 JAN 12 SOLUTIONS TO PARENTING VILLAGE CENTER 0830-1230 830-6344
 FAMILY READINESS VOLUNTEER TRNG 830-4163
 JAN 13 8:00—3:00 L.I.N.K.S. FOR SPOUSES 830-1696
 JAN 15 SMP FILM FESTIVAL VOLUNTEER EVENT 830-4767
 1ST TANK BN KIDS IN THE MIDST WORKSHOP 1000-1200 BLDG 1707
 JAN 18 COUPLES COMMUNICATION 0900-1200 830-6345
 JAN 19 S.O.S. WORKSHOP 6:00-8:00PM 830-4163
 SMP DESERT MAIL CALL MAILING DAY 830-4767
 JAN 20 LIFELONG LEARNING LIBRARY SCIENCE NIGHT 6-7:30 830-6875
 STORY TIME EVERY TUESDAY 10:30-11:30 830-6875
 LAP TIME EVERYONE WEDNESDAY 10:30-11:00 830-6875
 UNITED THROUGH READING ALWAYS AVAILABLE TO ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS
 MANGO—CONVERSATION SKILLS FOR 12 DIFFERENT LANGUAGES 830-6875
 PREP WORKSHOP 8:00—4:30 6789
 JAN 21 PREP WORKSHOP 8:00—4:30 830 830-6789
 JAN 22 SMP BIG BEAR TRIP 830-4767
 L.I.N.K.S. FOR PARENTS 8-1PM 830-1696
 JAN 25 FAMILY READINESS VOLUNTEER TRNG 9:00—4:30 830-4163
 JAN 26 FOUR LENSES WORKSHOP 830-3114
 JAN 29 SMP ONTARIO MILLS MALL TRIP 830-4767

For more events go to the MCCS Website at: www.mccs29palms.com



JANUARY 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 FREE CHESS TOURNAMENT	8
9	10	11 SMP COUNSEL MTNG L.I.N.K.S. FOR SPOUSES FR VOLUNTEER TRNG	12 SOLUTIONS TO PARENTING FR VOLUNTEER TRNG	13 L.I.N.K.S. FOR SPOUSES	14	15 FILM FESTIVAL VOL EVENT 1ST TANK BN KIDS IN THE MIDST WORKSHOP
16	17	18 COUPLES COMMUNICATION	19 FR VOLUNTEER TRNG S.O.S. WORKSHOP DESERT MAIL CALL MAILING DAY	20 1ST TANK BN FAMILY READINESS MEETING Science Night PREP WORKSHOP	21 PREP WORKSHOP	22 BIG BEAR TRIP L.I.N.K.S. FOR PARENTS
23	24	25 FAMILY READINESS VOLUNTEER TRNG	26 FOUR LENSES WORKSHOP	27	28	29 ONTARIO MILLS MALL TRIP
30	31					

CARE PACKAGE DAY PROGRAM

You supply the goodies and postage and the Exchange will provide: packing materials—tape-custom forms-flat rate boxes (lg & sml) your own non-flat rate boxes are accepted too. Care package shippers will receive a \$10 coupon towards their next purchase at the Exchange. Care packages can be sent any day during the month. Bring your packages to the MCCS Administration Office in BLDG 1533 within normal business hours.

SENDING CARE PACKAGES

Tips:

*FREE mailing supplies: www.shop.usps.com and order FREE priority boxes and mailing supplies. OR call 1-800-610-8734, select option #1 and ask for CAREKIT04.

*Priority Mail ensures that your package will get there faster.

*Postage Calculator www.postcalc.usps.gov and calculate postage

*Custom declaration on all packages

MOTOMAIL

Family and Friends of deployed Marines and Sailors in Iraq can NOW send a letter to be downloaded, printed, and ready for delivery, usually within 24 hours

THE SERVICE IS FREE, PRIVATE AND SECURE
WWW.MOTOMAIL.US



FAMILY READINESS OFFICER
Office number
(760) 830-1997

FEBRUARY

FEB 1 FINANCE 101 CREDIT REPORTS 830-7342
 FEB 2 SMP FREE BOWLING & PIZZA 830-4767
 FEB 3 FOUR LENSES WORKSHOP 4-8PM 830-3114
 FEB 4 L.I.N.K.S FOR MARINES 8-1 PM 830-1696
 SMP PING PONG TOURNAMENT 830-4767
 SMP WHALT WATCHING AND MALL TRIP 830-4767
 FEB 8 FAMILY READINESS VOLUNTEER TRNG 830-1463
 L.I.N.K.S FOR COUPLES 5-9PM 830-4163
 FINANCE 101 DEV BUDGT & DEBT MGMT 830-7342
 FEB 9 FAMILY READINESS VOLUNTEER TRNG
 L.I.N.K.S FOR COUPLES 5-9PM 830-1696
 OVERSEAS CONNECTIONS BRIEF 830-6344
 FEB 10 FIVE LOVE LANGUAGES WORKSHOP
 FEB 14 HEARTS APART DINNER 830-6163
 FEB 15 APPLYING FOR CREDIT
 FEB 16 L.I.N.K.S MENTOR TRNG 6-9 PM 830-1696
 MCCS MAGIC, COMEDY & VARIETY SHOW 830-6163
 CG'S WELCOME ABOARD BRIEF 830-6344
 FEB 17 LINKS MENTOR TRNG 6-9PM 830-1696
 COUPLES GAME NIGHT 4-8PM 830-3114
 1ST TANK BN FAMILY READINESS MTNG 6PM BN CLASSROOM
 FEB 22 SAVING & INVESTING 830-7342
 FEB 23 COAST TO COAST CONNECTIONS BRIEF 830-6344
 FEB25 FAMILY READINESS VOLUNTEER TRNG 9AM-4PM 830-4163

FEBRUARY 2011



ALL BRIEFS AND EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE PLEASE CALL TO CONFIRM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 FINANCE 101 CREDIT REPORTS	2 SMP FREE BOWLING AND PIZZA	3 FOUR LENSES WORKSHOP	4 L.I.N.K.S FOR MARINES SMP PING PONG TOURNAMENT	5 SMP WHALE WATCHING & MALL TRIP
6	7	8 FAMILY READINESS VOLUNTEER TRNG FINANCE 101 DEV BUDGET & DEBT	9 FAMILY READINESS VOLUNTEER TRNG OVERSEAS CONNECTION BRIEF	10 FIVE LOVE LANGUAGES	11	12
13	14 HEARTS APART DINNER	15 FINANCE 101 APPLYING FOR CREDIT	16 L.I.N.K.S MENTOR TRNG MCCS MAGIC, COMEDY & VARIETY SHOW CG'S WELCOME ABOARD BRIEF	17 L.I.N.K.S MENTOR TRNG COUPLES GAME NIGHT 1ST TANK BN FAMILY READINESS MTNG	18	19
20	21 DESERT MAIL CALL MAILING DAY	22 FINANCE 101 SAVINGS & INVESTING	23 COAST TO COAST CONNECTIONS	24	25	26 FAMILY READINESS VOLUNTEER TRNG
27						

USMC DSTRESS LINE

1.) Purpose is to improve resilience and develop the necessary skills required to cope with the widely varying challenges of life as a Marine or Marine family member.

2.) Anonymous and confidential. No names required. No identifying information passed to commands. Caveat: The DSTRESS Line has a duty to warn law enforcement if a caller is at imminent risk of harm to self or others.

3.) By Marine/For Marine.” Callers will speak with customer service representatives and licensed counselors who are veteran Marines, veteran FMF Corpsmen, and civilian men and women with exposure to and specialized training in Marine Corps culture. Services available via phone, chat or Skype.



DSTRESS
 WIN YOUR PERSONAL BATTLES.
1.877.476.7734
DSTRESSLINE.COM



Words from the Doc

The BAS is back in the saddle after this holiday season. We would like to welcome aboard three new Sailors: HM3 Horton from Okinawa Japan and HN Torres and HN Nwanze, from Field Medical Training Battalion. Please welcome these Sailors when you see them. We would also like to wish Delta Company Corpsmen and Marines a successful and safe deployment.

The BAS is wishing farewell to HM3(FMF) Carlson who is leaving for Naval Health Clinic Bremerton, Washington. We hope every Marine, Sailor, and their families had a fun and safe holiday season and have a great 2011!



NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR 2011 MILITARY CHILD OF THE YEAR AWARD

Deserving Young Patriots Will Win \$5,000

SAN ANTONIO – Operation Homefront announces the expansion of the 2011 Military Child of the Year Award and opening of the nomination period. Beginning in 2011, the award will be given to an outstanding military child from each Service – Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. The winners, who each will receive \$5,000, will be flown with a parent or guardian to Washington, D.C., for special recognition ceremony on April 7, 2011. Nominations are being accepted until January 31.

Ideal candidates for the Military Child of the Year Award demonstrate resilience and strength of character, and thrive in the face of the challenges of military life. They demonstrate leadership within their families and within their communities.

“The sons and daughters of America’s service members learn what patriotism is at a very young age,” said Jim Knotts, chief executive officer, Operation Homefront. “Children in military families understand sacrifice and live with the concept of service. This is what the Military Child of the Year Award honors.”

Nominees must:

- Must have valid military ID or currently be enrolled in DEERS
- Must be between 8-18
- Must be able to travel to Washington, D.C., for the ceremony on April 7, 2011



Finalists must have a background check to confirm legitimacy of information provided in the nomination and must provide references.

To nominate a child please visit www.operationhomefront.net.

About Operation Homefront

Operation Homefront provides emergency financial and other assistance to the families of our service members and wounded warriors. A national nonprofit, Operation Homefront leads more than 4,500 volunteers across 23 chapters and has met more than 267,000 needs since 2002. A four-star rated charity by watchdog Charity Navigator, nationally, \$.95 of total revenue donated to Operation Homefront goes to programs. For more information about Operation Homefront, please visit www.operationhomefront.net.

This message was sent by: Operation Homefront Southern California, PO Box 26747
San Diego, CA 92196

MAILING ADDRESSES



Bravo Co
1st Tank Bn B Co
Unit 41680
FPO AP 96427-1680

Delta Co
1st Tank Bn Delta Co
Unit 41690
FPO AP 96427-1690



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Tank Battalion Trivia— test your knowledge?

1. In what year was the first light Tank Platoon formed?
2. Were Tanks ever deployed to China?
3. What was the first Tanks purchased by the Marine Corps?
4. How many Marine Tanks formed the first Tank Platoon?
5. Were Marine Tanks ever deployed to Iceland?
6. At the end of 1949, how many M-26 tanks did the Marine Corps possess?
7. 1st Tank Battalion was originally equipped with what armored fighting vehicle?
8. What senior officer in the Corps made the following quote: "would eliminate the tank fleet found in the Marine Corps today if I could"?
9. Who commanded the Marine Corps' first armored fighting vehicle unit in Tientsin, China 1927-1928?
10. 1st Tank Battalion was formed in what year?

Emergency Childcare Program!

A program is available through the CDC for EMERGENCY situations—a death, illness, hospitalization. Contact the CDC at (760) 401-0516 for more details!

10 Hours FREE Childcare

10 hours of FREE childcare is available through the CDC for spouses of DEPLOYED service members. Child must meet the CDC requirements for care. Contact CYTP for more details 830-3227

Ten Deployment Tips for Families

1. Be a good role model by demonstrating good coping techniques.
2. Allow and encourage children to express their feelings and try to accept them.
3. Establish rules and limits, as a family, BEFORE deployment around issues of: consequences of disobeying family rules, money & allowances, chores and responsibilities, Avoid saying, "Wait until your father/mother gets home!"
4. Spend time together as a family, with each child and as a couple.
5. Communicate via: video, schoolwork and progress reports, letters, email, and postcards to EACH child, journals, pictures, and telephone.
6. Emphasize the importance of school: visit school before deployment, tell your child that school is important, mail cards, letters, pictures, foreign money, etc. to class.
7. Allow children to help with preparations: help pack, discuss ways child can assist at home, make family plans before the deployment.
8. Be patriotic: tell your child about your job, hang flags and banners, provide ball caps and other command insignia to your children, attend command sponsored events, introduce your children to your fellow Marines and Sailors.
9. If possible, visit your command: show your child your work center, explain your job, go on the internet or to the library to get information about the geography, culture and people of the area of the deployment, discuss the importance of training and safety.
10. Get help if needed, contact:
 - * Family Service Center
 - * Military One Source
 - * A Chaplain
 - * TRICARE Mental Health Services

Baby & Me Program at the MCX -

This is an exclusive MCX program designed to support the Marine Corps family. When providing a copy of the birth certificate of the newborn baby within 60 days of the date of birth, all authorized



Marine Corps patrons receive an \$10 gift Card. The gift card can be used toward any MCX purchase



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Armed Forces American Red Cross	(760) 830-6685
Exceptional Family Member Program	(760) 830-7740
Relocation Assistance Program	(760) 830-4028
Family Medicine Clinic & Pediatrics/Immunizations	(760) 830-2752
Emergency Medicine Department	(760) 830-2345
Tri-West	1 (800) TRIWEST
Lincoln Military Housing	(760) 368-4500
Family Readiness Officer	(760) 401-6034
	(760) 830-1997

NEW FRO NUMBERS!

ARRIVE ALIVE The Safest way to get home after a night out on the town (760)368-1000

Exceptional Family Member Program

830-7740
Village Center
BLDG 1551

ANNOUNCING

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY US CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES

MILITARY OUTREACH

FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2011

1000-1200

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY!

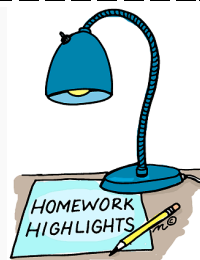
CALL LEGAL ASSISTANCE A 760-830-6111

General information available on all types of immigration issues. Fingerprinting available. Please pass the word to friends and co-workers

Come to the outreach and bring your questions!

Tutor.com for Military Families

All U.S. military families have free, unlimited access to Tutor.com's online homework, tutoring and career services provided by the Department of Defense.



Army, Marines, Navy and Air Force members and their dependents around the world can work with a certified, professional tutor or career specialist online 24/7 to get help with homework, studying, test prep, resume writing and more. Tutor.com offers help in more than 16 subjects from elementary math to AP Physics.

Students and adults simply go to www.tutor.com/military, select their military branch and follow the directions to get a password to access the service. Whenever a student or adult needs help, they just enter their question and are connected to a certified tutor or career specialist in the interactive online classroom. A certified tutor or career specialist works one-to-one with each student until their problem is solved. At the end of each session, the student may print or email a transcript for future review.

All of the sessions are anonymous and conducted by screened, certified tutors and career specialists who have all completed a third-party background check. Tutors include certified teachers, professors, graduate school students, students at accredited universities and professionals who are experts in their field.

Tutor.com is an award-winning online homework help and learning service that connects students to a certified tutor for one-to-one help. Tutor.com has a network of more than 1,800 expert tutors that have conducted over 5 million sessions in math, science, social studies and English. Tutor.com is an American Association of School Administrators partner and has been awarded the Parent's Choice Gold Award in 2008 and 2009.

Trivia Answers:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. 1923, Quantico VA | 6. 102 |
| 2. Yes, 1927-29 1 PLT | 7. M2A4 Light Tank |
| 3. Marmon-Herrington CTL-3 | 8. General Charles C. Krulak, 1999 |
| 4. 2 Officers 22 Enlisted & 3 Tanks | 9. Captain Nathan E. Landon |
| 5. Yes, A Co 2nd Tanks 1941 | 10. November, 1941 |



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
Family Readiness Program
1st Tank Battalion, 1st Marine Division (REIN), FMF
MCAGCC Box 788270
Twentynine Palms, CA 92278-8270

(760) 830-1997
Jany.wasdin@usmc.mil
HOTLINE: 1(800) 759-7602
WEBSITE:
WWW.I-MEF.USMC.MIL/DIV/1TNKS

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Families and friends,

I have reported on board as the new Battalion Chaplain. My wife and I are excited to be here for such a time as this with our Marines, Sailors, and families of 1st Tanks. When the call went out to fill the need for Battalion Chaplains, we readily accepted the invitation to come to 7th Marines and served with 2/7 for 1 1/2 years before coming to 1st Tanks. I am here to serve you all – Marines, Sailors, and families of 1st Tanks.

I have been married for 14 years. We have one child, who just recently turned three. Coming from a non-denominational Christian background, I am endorsed by the Associated Gospel Churches. Our family is part of Calvary Fellowship, the congregation which meets at 0900 at Christ Chapel (i.e., the “protestant chapel”).

I have been a Navy chaplain for 14 years, 10 of which has been on active duty. We started our journey church planting in the Northwest while I served as a reserve chaplain attached to 1st Marine Division. I was called onto active duty to start CREDO Northeast (Groton, CT), and then moved to Italy for two years while forward deployed on the USS Emory S Land and living on the island of Sardinia. The Navy sent me to get a degree in Religion and Culture in the Middle East before assigning me to my last tour as Deputy Director for Religious Ministries here at MCAGCC. Now with 1st Tanks, I take on the responsibility given to me by the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps to be a spiritual, ethical and moral advisor to this Command. I will provide for those of Christian faith; facilitate and protect the freedom of worship for all; and care for each Marine, sailor, or family member as their chaplain.

This new year will prove to be exciting and challenging times for each of us in different ways. Let me strongly encourage you to intentionally use your time and energy to build your relationships with God, family, and friends. I cannot emphasize enough that you need to communicate with your family – especially your spouse. Since this is something we can all use help with, please feel free to contact me for resources available here at the base to develop communication between spouses and among family members.

Surround yourself with encouraging, uplifting input and let **God** be your focus – not your temporary circumstances. Practice the words of wisdom from Proverbs 27:17 that tells us, “As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.” May God use each one of us to do so.

Blessings

ChapMo

Chaplain Emile Moured
CDR, CHC, USN
1st Tank Battalion
7th Marines
Comm: 760.830.6789
DSN: 230.6789



St. Nick invades Combat Center



Santa Claus and his elves ride aboard an M1A1 main battle tank at the Combat Center Thursday. The festive

group, which included his “reindeer,” 1st Tank Battalion Marines on motorcycles, ended their journey at the 1st

Tank Bn. Christmas party where they delivered toys and candy to the unit’s children. Later, the children lined

up to sit on Santa’s lap, take photos and whisper what they want for Christmas into his ear.

West Coast tank unit to deploy to Afghanistan

By [Dan Lamothe](#) - Staff writer Marine Corps Times
Posted : Wednesday Dec 15, 2010 11:40:16 EST



The Marine Corps has identified the unit that will operate the first U.S. tanks used in the 9-year-old war in Afghanistan. Delta Company, 1st Tank Battalion, out of Twentynine Palms, Calif., will deploy early next year, said 1st Lt. Joseph Reney, a spokesman with Twentynine Palms' 1st Marine Division. It will provide heavy firepower and armor and the ability to observe the enemy through advanced optics from more than a mile away. The tanks already have begun to arrive in Afghanistan. The Corps leased photographs showing five M1A1 Abrams tanks last month at Camp Leatherneck, the Corps' major hub of operations in Helmand province. About 14 tanks will be used by the unit, officials said. Delta Company's commanding officer declined to be interviewed through a Marine spokesman, but Maj. Gen. Richard Mills, the top Marine commander in Afghanistan, said Dec. 7 that he asked for tanks after assessing the tactical situation in Helmand.

"The tank, with its optics, with its stand-off distance, with its battle armor, gives me a very, very good tool that I can use once again to bring very, very precise fires on the insurgents and ensure that civilian casualties don't rise, an issue that we are very concerned about here," Mills, commander of Regional Command-Southwest, told reporters at the Pentagon during a press conference from Afghanistan.



Marine leaders in Afghanistan were "advocates" for the tanks because of the firepower and maneuverability they provide, said Col. Randy Newman, commander of Regimental Combat Team 7, in a separate interview.

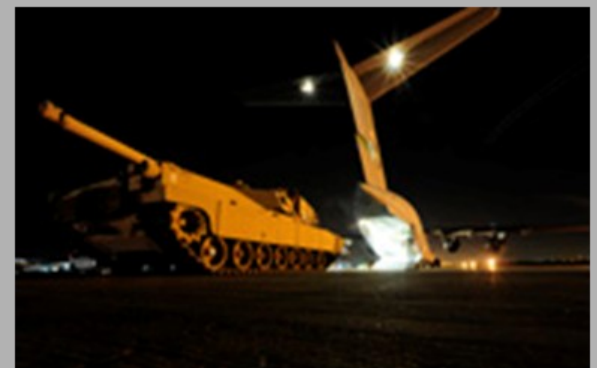
Newman, who oversaw some of the Corps' largest military operations this year, told defense bloggers that Marines operated alongside Danish tanks last December, when U.S. forces assaulted Now Zad district during Operation Cobra's Anger.

The assault on the then-deserted district center began when hundreds of troops with Twentynine Palms' 3rd Battalion, 4th Ma-

rines, and the Marine reconnaissance unit Task Force Raider were dropped behind Taliban lines Dec. 4, 2009, by helicopter and MV-22 Osprey in the northern end of the Now Zad Valley. Two weeks later, the operation came to a close.

"We used Danish tanks to help us reduce some hard bunkers... that the enemy had established up there," said Newman, who recently returned to Twentynine Palms, Calif., after a year long deployment. "I think you'll see that as being less applicable the longer we're in southern Helmand province, but that potential could still present itself."

One potential area where tanks could help is in the deserts of southern Helmand. The tanks could limit the freedom of movement that insurgents have over "ratline" trails in the area, Newman said.



STAFF SGT. ANDY KIN / AIR FORCE The Marine Corps began receiving delivery of M1A1 Abrams tanks in Afghanistan last month. They will be the first U.S. tanks used in the war in Afghanistan, and operated by Delta Company, 1st Tank Battalion, out of Twentynine Palms, Calif

LifeAsAMarine.com!

We are pleased to announce this additional resource for spouses, parents and extended family members--especially those not on or near a Marine Corps Installation. We recommend this as your "go to" resource for your parents and others looking for connection to the Corps.

Welcome to LifeAsAMarine.com!

This is the United States Marine Corps' official community website. It is dedicated to providing answers and sharing the actual stories from parents, teachers, coaches, and mentors who have experienced the honor and commitment identified with the most elite branch of military service in the United States of America.

BENEFITS OF REGISTERING

By registering to be a member of the LifeAsAMarine community, you will be able to track the activity of contributors that you admire, comment on the stories that you find compelling, and even share your own experiences, photos and videos. To register, simply click here and follow the instructions provided. Once you have completed your registration, you may explore the following options:

Share Your Story — By clicking on the "Share Your Story" button, you will be able to post your personal Marine Corps experiences, including photos and videos. To upload a story:

Sign in

Go to the "My Activity" tab or click here Enter all information that is required, along with photos or video Submit your story to be approved for publication



Finance 101

By Sandra Little

Personal Financial Management Counselor

The Personal Financial Management Program is a program put in place by Headquarters Marine Corps. It is a free and confidential program that provides you with a counselor that can assist you with the basic understanding of personal finance. You may utilize this service on an individual basis (as often as you would like) or you may attend classes provided on a weekly basis. Spouses are welcomed and highly encouraged to attend.

Topics Discussed:

Credit Reports - 2/1/11
Developing a Budget & Debt Management - 2/8/11
Applying for Credit - 2/15/11
Saving & Investing - 2/22/11
Car Buying - 3/1/11
Home Buying - 3/8/11

Items needed for *individual appointments*:

Current LES/Paystub
Monthly Expenses
Interest Rates & Balances

For individual appointments or seat reservations contact:

Tracy Earnest

(760) 830-4262

You may also contact your unit Family Readiness Officer (FRO) for further information.

Child care will not be provided, please make arrangements if you plan on attending a class!



YEAR 2010 IN REVIEW

U.S., Romanian Marines partner to hone rifle, martial arts

STORY AND PHOTOS BY

CPL. R. LOGAN KYLE

BLACK SEA ROTATIONAL FORCE

BABADAG TRAINING AREA, Romania

— U.S. Marines, in partnership with Romanian Marines and soldiers, honed their rifle and hand-to-hand combat skills May 18, 2010. The Marines and sailors of scout platoon, Headquarters and Service Company, 1st Tank Battalion, are currently training with the Romanian military in nonlethal weapons, combat marksmanship, noncommissioned officer development, the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program and other areas of military operations. Scout platoon helped train Romanian troops by teaching them the fundamentals of marksmanship and by developing a special course based on the MCMAP hand-to-hand combat regimen to help them better prepare for situations they may encounter while conducting peacekeeping operations. First Tank Battalion, from Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif., forms the core of the Security Cooperation Marine Air-Ground Task Force deployed to the Black Sea region. The U.S. Marines are training in partnership with Romanian Marines and soldiers to create a more fluid relationship between the two nations' military forces.



Cpl. Richard Chavez, a radio operator with scout platoon, Headquarters and Service Company, 1st Tank Battalion, speaks with Romanian Marines about proper firing positions at Babadag Training Area, Romania, May 18, 2010.



A Romanian Marine practices and to-hand combat techniques at Babadag Training Area, Romania, May 18, 2010.



Romanian Marines practice U.S. Marine Corps Martial Arts Program techniques at Babadag Training Area, Romania, May 18, 2010.



Cpl. Francisco Guzman, a tank commander with Company B, 1st Tank Battalion, retrieves his Kevlar helmet from Jessica Plummer, the wife of Lance Cpl. Chad Plummer, a crewman with Co.B, after a ride in an M1-A1 Abrams Main Battle Tank during the battalion's "Jane Wayne Day" at Combat Center Range 500 March, 30, 2010.



Ukrainian Army soldiers with the 30th Mechanized Infantry Brigade attack Marines with 1st Tank Battalion's scout platoon during a Marine Corps Martial Arts Program physical training exercise at Babadag Training Area, Romania, June 16, 2010. The PT was designed to incorporate the MCMAP skills they have learned throughout the week.

More Marine tanks arrive in Afghanistan

STAFF SGT.

JENNIFER BROFER

*1st MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP
(FWD)*

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – Marine Corps M1A1 Abrams tanks continue to roll into Afghanistan and are being staged here for inspection before being assigned elsewhere in Helmand province as another tool in waging counterinsurgency operations. Five tanks have arrived so far, and another dozen or so are expected to arrive in the coming weeks, according to 2nd Lt. Matthew Glisson, officer in charge of the Initial Issue Provisioning lot aboard Camp Leatherneck, where the tanks will undergo inspections and any required maintenance. “In support of Operation Enduring Freedom, the Marine Corps is looking to boost the combat power of the infantrymen on the ground and what better way to do that than with tanks,” said Glisson, 26, from Oxford, Pa., a member of Support Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 15 (Forward), 1st Marine Logistics Group (Forward). Marines from Maintenance Company, CLR-15 (FWD), 1st MLG (FWD), will assist civilian contractors in inspections and conducting maintenance on the tanks as operations continue, Glisson added. In addition to increased maneuverability and precision firepower, the tanks will provide superior optics, allowing coalition forces to spot improvised explosive devices being emplaced by the Taliban, their primary weapon of choice, according to Maj. Gen. Richard Mills, commanding general of Regional Command (Southwest). “The superior optics provided by the tanks give us one more tool to take away the night from the enemy...he can’t use the darkness to lay his IEDs that cause so many casualties among our forces and the civilian population,” Mills said



Five Marine M1A1 tanks have arrived to Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, and another dozen or so are expected to arrive in the coming weeks. The tanks will undergo maintenance before being assigned missions elsewhere in Helmand province as another tool in waging counterinsurgency operations. In addition to increased maneuverability and precision firepower, tanks will provide superior optics and night vision capability, allowing coalition forces to spot improvised explosive devices being emplaced by the Taliban.



Jonathan Moore, a tight end and wide receiver with First Tank Battalion, makes a diving catch for a touchdown Wednesday at the Combat Center's Felix Field against Combat Logistics Battalion 7. The two teams met in their last game until the playoffs, which begin Nov. 17.



Cody Beyer [11], a wide receiver for Combat Logistics Battalion 7, fights with Jerome Benoit [35], a cornerback with First Tank Battalion, for a pass Wednesday during their last game before the playoffs in the Commanding General's Intramural Football League at the Combat Center's Felix Field.



In a rarely-seen act of aggression, Jesse Hughes, the Combat Logistics Battalion 7 kicker, lowers his shoulder pad to get the first down on a trick play Wednesday during their game against First Tank Battalion. This was the last game of the season. The playoffs begin Nov. 17.



Ladies get your gear and away we will go!!!!



1st Tank Battalion Jane Wayne Day

March 31, 2011 - 0800 - 1430 - BLDG 1800 Tank Ramp



Come and join us for a the day in the life of your Marine or Sailor!

Experience Steel on Target

Wear a Flack Jacket and Kevlar, ride in a 7 Ton Truck, Dine on an MRE

And MUCH, MUCH MORE –

*Attire for the day: Comfortable jeans, shirt, stable comfortable shoes/boots,
and a jacket/sweatshirt*

Family Readiness Program

Family Readiness Officer
BLDG 1602 Room 8

Phone: 760-830-1997

E-mail: jany.wasdin@usmc.mil

Reservations are required so reserve your seat now!

Contact your FRO!

The Softer Side of Tanks!



Announcing the National Fatherhood Initiative 2011 Military Fatherhood Awards.



Here's some background information about this year's nominations/awards:

Nominations will open on 18 Jan 2011

Qualities to look for in your nominees:

- *Nominee's ongoing commitment and dedication to child(ren).
- *Nominee's extraordinary effort to father from a distance during military separation.
- *Nominee's efforts to successfully balance military life and family life.
- *Nominee's efforts to mentor/strengthen other military fathers and/or military children who are separated from their fathers.
- *Unique elements to your nominee's story

Award Ceremony:

Wednesday, June 8, 2011

5:00-5:30pm registration

5:30 - 8:00pm ceremony and reception

Place:

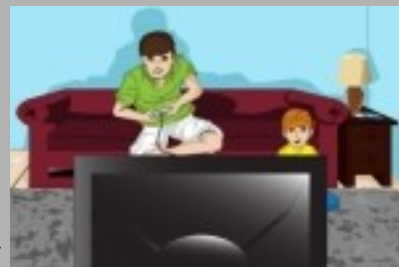
Renaissance Hotel Washington DC

999 9th Street, NW

Washington, DC 20001

They're only accepting the first 600 nominations and they always come in quickly, therefore, everyone is encouraged to complete their nominations as soon as the form opens!

For more information about this year's event, please visit us at www.militaryfatherhoodaward.org.



However, you will not be able to officially submit nominations until 18 Jan.

Lifelong Learning Library

The Lifelong Learning Library would like to keep you informed about upcoming and ongoing family programs that will be featured at your library. Please share them with your Service Members and their families.

The LLL continually offers the use of computers, TV, DVD player, scanner, and fax machine. Printer paper is not supplied, however, the utilization of all amenities is free to service members and their dependents. Books, magazines, music cds, dvds, and video games are all available for checkout.

Science Night for school aged children, Jan. 20 6-7:30pm

Story Time: every Tuesday 10:30-11:30, ages 3-6

Lap Time: every Wednesday 10:30-11:00, ages 0-2

United Through Reading is always available to active duty service members.

The Lifelong Learning Library is no longer providing access to Rosetta Stone online. Instead, a similar online language-learning system called Mango will be made available.

Science Night: Bring your school aged children to the library to participate in exciting experiments, have a chance to win great prizes, and learn how to create your own experiments at home! The fun begins at 6pm on Thursday, January 20 and goes until 7:30pm. See you there!

Weekly Programs:

Story Time – Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 Ages 3-6 yrs

This is an interactive program where children sing songs, practice counting and the alphabet, have a story read to them, and participate in a craft or art project.

“Mother Goose on the Loose” Lap Time - Wednesday s, 10:30-11:00 Ages infants-2 yrs

This program is designed to present an engaging and educational experience for parents and children. Participants will sing songs, hear stories, practice rhymes, and share in other fun activities.

United Through Reading: For deploying service members and their families, United Through Reading is a fantastic way to keep them connected. This service is free of charge, includes the recorded disc(s) and a book of their choice, and is done in private at their convenience. Please call the library or stop by to set up an appointment.

Mango: Mango is a self-paced program that can be accessed from any computer on base or at home. It teaches actual conversation skills for 12 different languages, with 4 English as a Second Language (ESL) options also available.

All base authorized individuals qualify for a Mango account. To enroll, a user must register with the library. To sign up, please call the library at 760-830-6875, email the librarian at terrellas@usmc-mccs.org, or stop by building 1528.

MCCS



MARINE CORPS FAMILY TEAM BUILDING



2011 MCFTB Workshops

For more information & to register, please
call 830-3110 • MCCS29PALMS.COM

January Schedule:	Time:	Topic:
11 th and 13 th	8 a.m. - 3 p.m.	L.I.N.K.S. for Spouses Workshop
11 th and 12 th	5 - 8 p.m.	Family Readiness Volunteer Training
13 th	11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Lunch Box Series for Family Readiness Assistants and Advisors
19 th	6 - 8 p.m.	S.O.S Workshop - "Who are you, really?" 4 Lenses/FOCUS
20 th and 21 st	8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	PREP Workshop
22 nd	8 a.m. - 1 p.m.	L.I.N.K.S. for Parents Workshop
25 th	9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Family Readiness Volunteer Training
26 th	10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Four Lenses Workshop
February Schedule:		
3 rd	4 - 8 p.m.	Four Lenses Workshop
4 th	8 a.m. - 1 p.m.	L.I.N.K.S. for Marines
8 th and 9 th	9 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Family Readiness Volunteer Training
8 th and 9 th	5 - 9 p.m.	L.I.N.K.S. for Couples Workshop
10 th	4 - 8 p.m.	Five Love Languages Workshop
16 th and 17 th	6 - 9 p.m.	L.I.N.K.S. Mentor Training
17 th	4 - 8 p.m.	Couples Game Night
26 th	9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Family Readiness Volunteer Training
March Schedule:		
2 nd and 3 rd	8 a.m. - 12 p.m.	P.I.C.K. Workshop
8 th	9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Family Readiness Volunteer Training
10 th	10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	A Beautiful You Workshop
12 th	10 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Five Love Languages Workshop
15 th and 16 th	5 - 8 p.m.	Family Readiness Volunteer Training
17 th and 18 th	8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	PREP Workshop
22 nd and 24 th	8 a.m. - 1 p.m.	L.I.N.K.S. for Spouses Workshop
23 rd	8 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Four Lenses Workshop
30 th	5 - 7 p.m.	S.O.S Workshop "What's under the hood?" Auto Skills Shop

FOUR LENSES WORKSHOP

Discover how our different personality temperaments compliment and balance one another in all personal and professional relationships. Open to individuals, couples, active duty and/or spouses.

FIVE LOVE LANGUAGES WORKSHOP

Discover the path to more loving, effective communication between you and your partner. Using the Dr. Gary Chapman book, "The Five Love Languages," couples will learn how they love and how their spouses love. Open to individuals, couples, active duty and/or spouses.

PREVENTION AND RELATIONSHIP ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (PREP)

Dedicated to improving marriages by providing valuable education that gives partners the knowledge they need to develop and maintain a healthy and loving relationship.

COUPLES GAME NIGHT

Couples game night is designed to build and explore a couple's relationship bond through games, fun networking and teambuilding in a socially relaxed environment.

P.I.C.K. WORKSHOP

P.I.C.K. is an interactive workshop designed for singles. It discusses making logical choices for a spouse by using the acronym F.A.C.E.S.

A BEAUTIFUL YOU WORKSHOP

For women who are looking to make positive changes in their minds and bodies, giving them the tools to take a different perspective on what they see in the mirror, how they think of themselves, how they take care of their bodies and dress.

FAMILY READINESS ADVISOR & ASSISTANT TRAINING

Training offered to family members who would like to volunteer as a Unit Family Readiness Advisor or Assistant. Also open to family members who would like to learn more about the Family Readiness Program.

LUNCH AND LEARN SERIES

Continuing Education Session is designed to give Family Readiness Advisors and Assistants information and education on programs and services available to Marines and Families.

S.O.S. (SUPPORTING OUR SPOUSES) WORKSHOP

A base wide forum for service members and their spouses to gain a greater understanding of themselves and the resources that MCAGCC 29 Palms and the community have to offer. Each workshop will cover one of the six Beyond the Brief topics: Communication, Safe & Sound at Home, Combat Operational Stress, Casualty Assistance, Financial Planning and Coping with Deployment.

L.I.N.K.S. WORKSHOPS

The program focuses on providing information to all Marines and family members on the resources available and methods for meeting the challenges of the military lifestyle. Sessions are available for Marines, spouses, children, teens and extended family members.

L.I.N.K.S. FOR MENTORS

The program focuses on training L.I.N.K.S. mentors to teach and facilitate L.I.N.K.S. workshops.

To register or receive more information for any class listed, contact
the Marine Corps Family Team Building Office at

MCCS29PALMS.COM

760-830-3110

MCCS29PALMS

